

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An information interface system, comprising:

speech recognition means arranged to listen to telephone voice signals carried on a telephone communications channel between a user and another person, and to ~~recognise~~recognize at least one or more predefined keywords or phrases contained within the voice signals;

keyword processing means arranged to relate ~~any recognised~~recognized keywords or phrases to items of information stored in an information database ~~so as to identify~~ relevant items of information thereto;

information display means arranged to display ~~any~~ items of information and/or links thereto identified by the keyword processing means to the user; and

speech recognition control means arranged to activate ~~or deactivate~~ the speech recognition means at a time during an ongoing exchange of voice signals on said communications channel after the communications channel has been carrying voice signals related to the voice signals to be monitored in response to one or more predetermined criteria.

2. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein the keyword processing means further comprises:

storage means for storing item definition data defining the items of information in the information database;

item matching means for matching ~~recognised~~recognized keywords or phrases to the item definition data; and

item scoring means for keeping an item score for each item of information in dependence upon the number of keywords or phrases matched to each item.

3. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 2, wherein the keyword processing means further comprises:

item sorting means arranged to sort the items of information in dependence on the respective item scores.

4. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 2, wherein the keyword processing means further comprises:

item score thresholding means arranged to apply at least one threshold to the item scores,

wherein those items whose item scores do not meet the threshold are not made available to the user.

5. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein:

the information display means is arranged to display the items of information and/or links thereto as a hierarchical structure, which ~~preferably~~ matches the hierarchy of the information database.

6. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1 wherein:

the speech recognition means, the keyword processing means and the information display means are substantially continuously or periodically operable so as to continually or periodically update the items of information and/or links thereto displayed to the user.

7. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein:

the predetermined criteria are selected such that the speech recognition means is deactivated on that portion or portions of the voice signals which are not expected to contain keywords or phrases.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of interfacing information to a user, said method comprising the steps of:

listening to telephone voice signals carried on a telephone communications channel between the user and another person at a time during an ongoing exchange of voice signals on said communications channel after the communications channel has been carrying voice signals related to the voice signals to be monitored;

~~recognising~~recognizing, in response to one or more predetermined criteria, at least one or more predefined keywords or phrases contained within the voice signals;

relating any ~~recognised~~recognized keywords or phrases to items of information stored in an information database so as to identify relevant items of information thereto; and

displaying any items of information and/or links thereto so identified to the user.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein the relating step further comprises:

storing item definition data defining the items of information in the information database;

matching ~~recognised~~recognized keywords or phrases to the item definition data;
and

keeping an item score for each item of information in dependence upon the number of keywords or phrases matched to each item.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 9, wherein the relating step further comprises:

sorting the items of information in dependence on the respective item scores.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein the relating step further comprises:

applying at least one threshold to the item scores, wherein those items whose item scores do not meet the threshold are not made available to the user.

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein:
the displaying step is arranged to display the items of information and/or links thereto as a hierarchical structure, which ~~preferably~~ matches the hierarchy of the information database.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein the steps recited therein are substantially continuously or periodically repeated so as to continually or periodically update the items of information and/or links thereto displayed to the user.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein:

the predetermined criteria are selected such that the ~~recognising~~recognizing step is not performed on that portion or portions of the voice signals which are not expected to contain keywords or phrases.